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THE DIRECTV GROUP INC
PATENT DOCKET ADMINISTRATION RE/R11/A109
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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Lester J. Chong et al. Application No. 10/040,770 Filed: December 28, 2001 Attorney Docket No.: 10547-

DECISION ON PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.181

0023-999

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTENT FILTERING

This is a decision on the petition filed June 7, 2006, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.181, requesting that the holding of abandonment in the above-identified application be withdrawn.

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The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action, mailed October 6, 2005, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No response was received, and no extensions of time under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) were requested. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on January 7, 2006. A notice of abandonment was mailed on May 17, 2006.

With the present petition, Petitioner has alleged that the mailing was not received. The showing required to establish nonreceipt of an Office communication must include a statement from the practitioner stating that the Office communication was not received by the practitioner and attesting to the fact that a search of the file jacket and docket records indicates that the Office communication was not received. In addition, a copy of the docket record where the non-received Office communication

would have been entered had it been received and docketed must be attached to and referenced in practitioner's statement¹.

Petitioner has met the requirements of <u>Delgar v. Schuyler</u>, 172 USPQ 513 (D.D.C. 1971), in that he has asserted that he has searched both the file jacket and the docket record, and he has included a copy of the latter.

Considering the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue, as set forth on petition, it is concluded that Petitioner has met his burden of establishing that the mailing was not received.

Accordingly, the petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.181(a) is **GRANTED**. The holding of abandonment is **WITHDRAWN**.

The Technology Center will be notified of this decision. The Technology Center's support staff will notify the Examiner of this decision, so that the amendment which was received with the present petition can be processed.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) $272-3225^2$. All other inquiries concerning examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

Paul Shanoski Senior Attorney Office of Petitions

United States Patent and Trademark Office

^{1 &}lt;u>See MPEP 711.03(c)</u>.

² Petitioner will note that all practice before the Office should be in writing, and the action of the Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. See 37 C.F.R. §1.2. As such, Petitioner is reminded that no telephone discussion may be controlling or considered authority for Petitioner's further action(s).